

Shatford on Avon,
June 4. 54

Dear Mother;

I am indeed truly sorry
to have been unavoidably prevented
earlier replying to your last kind
note.

Various circumstances have occurred
to prevent my doing so, and when I
mention to you that indisposition
has been one of the chief causes, I
am quite sure I may rely upon
your kind indulgence being extended
to me.

I can hardly express to you
the pleasure I have derived from
being solicited by the Committee of

the Royal Shakespearean Club to
transmit to you the enclosed vote
of thanks for your great kindness
in presiding so ably at our late
intellectual gathering in honor of
the "Bard of Immortality."

You have won golden opinions
from all who were interested in
the proceedings, and the day will
long be remembered as one of the, if
not the most brilliant Shakespeare
Anniversaries.

I have also ventured to enclose
you a letter for your perusal, which
was handed to me a few days ago
by the Rev. Mr. Medwin, and I

have no doubt the suggestion of
the Lady will meet with your cordial
concurrence. She is prepared to
present a sum to the Trustees, to
aid the cause she has so deeply
at heart, in the way of purchasing
debt: as soon as the house is in
a fit condition to receive them.

There is now every chance of
something being done to the Abode.
Mr Barry paid a visit to
Shatford yesterday, and is to give
in his report in a few days. I very
much regret I was not enabled
to meet him.

Pray accept the assurances of my
most sincere regard, and believe me

J. Payne (Alma Mater)

Very faithfully yours
Henry Kingsley.

